

Message Text

SECRET

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73

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /031 W
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Z O 021935Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN FLASH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0809

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03386

FOR THE SECRETARY

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECVISIT TO BONN: BIOGRAPHIC BRIEFING
MATERIAL

THE FOLLOWING BRIEF BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON MAJOR GERMAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE VISIT MAY BE USEFUL TO THE SECRETARY'S PARTY. WE ASSUME NO BIOGRAPHIC MATERIAL IS NEEDED ON BRANDT AND SCHEEL.

1. STATE SECRETARY PAUL FRANK. BORN IN HILZINGEN NEAR LAKE CONSTANCE ON JULY 4, 1918, FRANK IS KNOWN AS SOMETHING OF A FRANCOPHILE AND HAS BUILT HIS DIPLOMATIC CAREER LARGELY ON A SPECIALIZATION IN FRENCH AFFAIRS. HE ENTERED THE GERMAN FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1950 AS PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE GERMAN CONSUL GENERAL IN PARIS AND SERVED THERE IN A VARIETY OF CAPACITIES UNTIL 1957. SUBSEQUENTLY HE HAS BEEN, INTER ALIA, THE DESK OFFICER FOR FRENCH AND BENELUX AFFAIRS, A MEMBER OF THE FRG'S OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UN, AND A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S POLICY PLANNING STAFF. IN 1968 HE WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE FIRST POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, AND IN JUNE 1970 HE SUCCEEDED TO HIS PRESENT POSITION AS STATE SECRETARY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POLITICAL AND LEGAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE. DURING HIS TENURE AS SECRET

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STATE SECRETARY, IN ADDITION TO HIS INTEREST IN WESTERN

EUROPEAN POLICY AND THE FRANCO-GERMAN RELATIONSHIP, FRANK HAS TAKEN A STRONG INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRANDT GOVERNMENT'S EASTERN POLICY AND HAS COME TO BE REGARDED AS ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED THEORETICIANS OF THAT POLICY IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. HE IS A STRONG ADVOCATE OF THE US MILITARY PRESENCE IN EUROPE AND OF THE VIEW THAT EASTERN POLICY CAN ONLY SUCCEED ON THE BASIS OF A STRONG ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. FRANK SPEAKS FLUENT FRENCH AND GOOD ENGLISH BUT PREFERS TO SPEAK GERMAN IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH US DIPLOMATS.

2. DR. LOTHAR LAHN. LAHN IS MINISTERIAL DIRECTOR (ROUGHLY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL) IN CHARGE OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S POLITICAL DEPARTMENT WHICH COVERS THE MID-EAST, LATIN AMERICA, AFRICA, SOUTH ASIA, AND EAST ASIA. BORN IN Breslau IN 1921, HE BEGAN HIS FOREIGN SERVICE CAREER IN 1952 AS VICE-CONSUL IN ZURICH. SUBSEQUENT ASSIGNMENTS HAVE INCLUDED THE HOLY SEE, MADRID, AND CAIRO, WHERE HE SERVED IN THE GERMAN INTERESTS SECTION OF THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN 1966. LAHN WAS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE FROM 1969 UNTIL 1971, WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO CHILE. HE RETURNED TO BONN TO TAKE OVER HIS PRESENT JOB IN 1973. LAHN, WHO SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH, IS QUIET, STRAIGHT-FORWARD, AND VERY FRIENDLY IN HIS DEALINGS WITH AMERICANS.

3. DR. GUIDO BRUNNER. BRUNNER IS HEAD OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S PLANNING STAFF. BORN IN 1930, HE ENTERED THE GERMAN FOREIGN SERVICE SHORTLY AFTER RECEIVING HIS DOCTORATE IN 1955. HE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE GERMAN CONSULATE IN LIVERPOOL, THE EMBASSY IN MADRID, AND FROM 1960-1967 WAS STATIONED IN NEW YORK WITH THE GERMAN OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UN. HE RETURNED TO BONN IN 1968 AND BECAME HEAD OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S PRESS DEPARTMENT IN 1970. HE HAS BEEN IN HIS PRESENT POSITION SINCE 1972. BRUNNER IS VERY CLOSE TO MINISTER SCHEEL, BOTH PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY, AND IS A MEMBER OF THE FDP.

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4. STATE SECRETARY HANS-GEORG SACHS. SACHS IS THE STATE SECRETARY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AREAS OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY AND CULTURAL POLICY, A POSITION WHICH HE TOOK OVER IN 1973. HE WAS BORN IN 1911 IN SILESIA AND SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II HAS HAD PREDOMINANTLY ECONOMIC ASSIGNMENTS IN THE GERMAN FOREIGN SERVICE, INCLUDING DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN FLASH

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0810

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EXDIS

ASSISTANCE AND GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES.

5. DR. PETER HERMES. HERMES IS MINISTERIAL DIRECTOR IN CHARGE OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE POLICY AND EUROPEAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION. IN THIS CAPACITY HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE GERMAN DELEGATION TO THE RECENT WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE. PREVIOUSLY, HE WAS HEAD OF A SUB-DIVISION HANDLING VARIOUS ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US GOVERNMENT ON OFF-SET MATTERS. HERMES, WHO APPEARS ABOUT 50 YEARS OLD, IS A FRIENDLY AND DIRECT MAN AND A GOOD FRIEND OF THE US. WE UNDERSTAND THAT AT ONE POINT IN HIS CAREER HE SERVED AT THE GERMAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN SAN FRANCISCO.

6. DR. KLAUS SIMON. SIMON IS DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF THE SUB-DIVISION OF THE SECOND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT WHICH HANDLES WESTERN EUROPEAN AND ATLANTIC RELATIONS. (HE IS ONE OF TWO DEPUTIES TO POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL AND WILL BE REPRESENTING VAN WELL IN THE LATTER'S ABSENCE FROM BONN.) HE WAS AT ONE TIME PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE THEN FOREIGN MINISTER, GERHARD SCHROEDER. HE WAS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK IN 1966 AND RETURNED FROM THERE IN 1971 TO TAKE

OVER HIS PRESENT JOB.

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7. PROFESSOR KARL CARSTENS. CARSTENS IS CHAIRMAN OF THE CDU/CSU PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN THE BUNDESTAG. AS SUCH, HE STANDS A GOOD CHANCE OF BEING HIS PARTY'S CANDIDATE FOR THE CHANCELLORSHIP IN THE NEXT FRG NATIONAL ELECTION. BORN IN 1914 IN BREMEN, CARSTENS HAS BROAD EXPERIENCE IN FOREIGN POLICY, HAVING SERVED IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE DURING THE LATTER HALF OF THE 1950'S WHERE HE SPECIALIZED IN WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. CARSTENS ALSO HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN SUB-CABINET POSITIONS IN THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT, HAVING SERVED AS UNDERSECRETARY IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE (1960-1966) AND IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY (1966-1968). IN 1968, HE BECAME UNDERSECRETARY IN THE CHANCELLERY UNDER THE THEN CHANCELLOR KIESINGER. BETWEEN THE ADVENT OF THE BRANDT GOVERNMENT AND HIS OWN ENTRY INTO THE BUNDESTAG, CARSTENS WAS DIRECTOR OF THE BONN RESEARCH CENTER OF THE GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION. HE IS GENERALLY REGARDED AS A LIBERAL WITHIN THE CDU/CSU, ALTHOUGH HE HAS BEEN QUITE CRITICAL OF THE BRANDT GOVERNMENT'S EASTERN POLICY, NOT SO MUCH FOR ITS AIMS AS FOR WHAT HE CONSIDERS EXCESSIVE HASTE AND SLOPPINESS IN EXECUTION.
HILLENBRAND

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